BENGALURU, FRIDAY, JUNE 26, 2026 www.Bangaloremirror.com 12 Pages PRICE ₹3

Bangalore Mirror

TEMP Max 29 | Min 20 | Humidity 80% Generally cloudy sky with Light rain Sensex 77,100 | Nifty 24,052 | Gold 1,41,330 | Silver 2,35,000 | Dollar 94.39 | Euro 107.26 | GBP 124.49

CITY / PAGE 3

DRUG ADDLED

Investigators warn B'luru is now at heart of expanding narcotics network that spans from global cartels to local peddlers

CITY / PAGE 4

BELIEVE IT OR NOT

Conservationists question claim made by State Pollution Control Board that no entity was discharging treated or untreated sewage into lakes

Experts discuss on-the-ground issues as number of schools equipped with functional smart classrooms in K'taka has dipped while national average has doubled; patchy internet, lack of trained teachers remain sticking points

NOT A SMART MOVE

Passive content consumption rather than interactive learning defeats actual purpose of facility

Iffath Fathima
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While India has witnessed a significant rise in the adoption of smart classrooms over the past four years, Karnataka has recorded a decline in the proportion of schools equipped with functional smart classrooms, highlighting persistent challenges in integrating technology into education.

According to the latest UDISE+ 2024-25 data cited in the NITI Aayog report, School Education System in India: Temporal Analysis and Policy Roadmap for Quality Enhancement, only 25.9% of schools in Karnataka have functional smart classrooms, down from 38.5% reported in 2021-22. The figures come at a time when the national average has more than doubled, rising from 14.9% in 2021-22 to 30.6% in 2024-25.

Smart classrooms are digitally enabled learning spaces that integrate tools such as projectors, interactive whiteboards, audio-visual content and access to e-resources. They are designed to make learning more engaging and interactive while supporting teachers in delivering competency-based instruction.

The report notes that despite rapid growth in some states, digital teaching infrastructure remains at an early stage in much of the country. In 2024-25, most states and Union Territories reported less than 30% coverage of functional smart classrooms. Chandigarh led the country with 95.2% of schools

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4 »

"Internet connectivity remains a concern, particularly in rural areas, while frequent power outages and inadequate backup systems further disrupt usage. Resistance to moving away from traditional teaching methods can also slow adoption

—Rotary Bangalore IT corridor team member

21 breakdowns, no plan B

Purple Line snag sparks fresh questions over Namma Metro reliability

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A technical snag at Cubbon Park Metro station on Thursday brought the Purple Line to a halt yet again, marking the 21st reported disruption in Namma Metro services and intensifying concerns over the reliability of the city's lifeline. The latest breakdown follows a major disruption on Tuesday and an earlier power failure on May 4, making Cubbon Park station the site of three major operational failures in less than two months.

BMRCL Chief Public Relations Officer BL Yashavanth Chavan said, "Metro services on the Purple Line experienced a temporary delay after a train's doors at Cubbon Park Metro Station failed to close properly due to a technical issue. As a precautionary safety measure, passengers were safely deboarded at the station. The evacuation process took about 17 minutes, leading to temporary delays in five subsequent train services." However, Tuesday's disruption occurred when a train travelling from Whitefield towards Challaghatta encountered a problem near the transition point between the elevated and underground sections close to Cubbon Park station. Preliminary

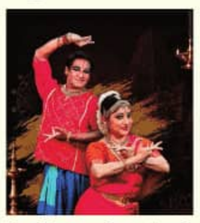
CONTINUED ON PAGE 6 »

THINGS TO DO

01 Tune in

Acclaimed sarangi artist Sarfaraaz Khan will be performing for an intimate recital featuring a morning raga, bringing a morning where melody, atmosphere and the rhythms of the day unite in a contemplative musical journey. **Where: Lumbini, Jagriti Theatre; When: June 28, 7.30 am**

02 Cultural craft



The Academy of Music (Regd), Chowdiah Memorial Hall, Vyalikaval, is set to present 'Nrutya Rangoli 2026', a prestigious three-day national dance extravaganza celebrating the richness and diversity of Indian classical dance traditions. **Where: Chowdiah Memorial Hall; When: July 10 to 12**

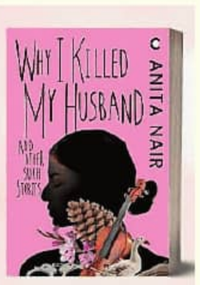
03 Word on the street

Storyteller Vikram Sridhar will be hosting a walk through the lanes of Indiranagar, exploring the area's folklore, heritage and ecology, weaving together historical, mythical and personal narratives that bring the neighbourhood to life. **Where: Atta Galatta, Indiranagar; When: June 27, 7 am**

04 Choral riff

Holy Ghost Church will host a choir concert titled Cathedral Windows, featuring two leading Western classical choirs – Cappella Bangalore and The Bangalore Men, offering moments of contemplation, splendour and profound artistic expression. **Where: Holy Ghost Church; When: June 27, 7.30 pm**

05 Read all about it



Bhartiya Mall of Bengaluru invites book lovers to immerse themselves in the world of stories, ideas and inspiration at the Big Bangalore Book Fest, where celebrated literary voices will engage readers through exclusive author meet-and-greet sessions. **Where: Bhartiya Mall of Bengaluru; When: June 27, 5 pm**

AC bus shelter gets cold response from commuters

Passengers and activists raise concerns over BWCC's plan for construction of new air-conditioned bus shelter, arguing that taxpayer money should be used to fund urgent civic improvements instead

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Air-conditioned bus stop near Vijayanagar Metro Station is currently under construction

Nearly two decades after the city's first air-conditioned bus shelter was launched near NR Square in 2008, Bengaluru West City Corporation (BWCC) has announced plans to construct a new facility near Vijayanagar Metro Station. The earlier shelter, once hailed as a first-of-its-kind civic initiative, quickly fell into disuse. Poor maintenance led to its abandonment by BMTC commuters and it eventually faded into history.

The new project, however, has already sparked criticism. Several BMTC passengers and social activists have raised concerns over the expenditure, calling it a waste of taxpayers' money. "It is a national waste. There was no demand from BMTC commuters for an air-conditioned bus shelter which may become a white elephant for the BWCC," said Rudresh KS, a BMTC commuter.

Coming down heavily on the BWCC authorities for spending money to construct the air-conditioned bus shelter, Krishnamurthy PK, a retired government employee, pointed out that four well-maintained bus shelters already exist at the same location. "All these bus-shelters have huge trees that provide cool shade throughout the year. I am of the opinion that the authorities concerned have to consult the residents or BMTC commuters before commencing the construction work," said Krishnamurthy.

Ramu T of Vijanayangara Nagareekara Vedike criticised BWCC authorities and elected representatives for taking the decision to construct the air-conditioned bus shelter. "It is a BMTC bus stop. BMTC commuters need not wait for more than five minutes to board buses to their respective destinations. The BWCC authorities are wasting tax-payers' money on the construction of an air-conditioned bus shelter. The authorities should have utilised the funds for filling up potholes in Govindarajanagar Assembly constituency," he said.

Several BMTC passengers echoed the sentiment, questioning the need for such projects when basic commuter facilities remain neglected, urging authorities to focus instead on clearing footpath encroachments and vacant spaces around bus stops. "A few people have already encroached the vacant space at the bus stop. These makeshift shops may become permanent structures in future. So, I demand the authorities to clear the encroachments without any delay or succumbing to political pressure," said a BMTC commuter.

BWCC Assistant Executive Engineer (Govindarajanagar) Krishnamurthy defended the initiative, stating that the air-conditioned shelter is part of a larger junction development programme. "The construction of the air-conditioned bus shelter began and there is a lot of work pending. We will take measures to complete the pending work without any delay," he said.

Campaign pushes for women's seat at the table

Women's organisations, activists, academics and civil society groups in Karnataka have launched a campaign demanding the immediate and unconditional implementation of the 33 per cent reservation for women in Parliament and State Assemblies under the Nari Shakti Vandan Adhiniyam, 2023.

At a public consultation held under the banner of the National Coalition for Women's Reservation (NCWR)-Karnataka, participants voiced concerns over the continued delay in enforcing the legislation. In a statement issued after the meeting, the coalition declared, "The time has come for women to rise and lead."

The coalition argued that while the demand for one-third representation for women in legislatures has been pursued for nearly three decades, linking the implementation of the law to a future Census and delimitation exercise has effectively postponed women's political rights.

With the Monsoon Session of Parliament approaching, NCWR-Karnataka announced a statewide public consultation and signature campaign. The coalition said it would engage with Members of Parliament and Members of the Legislative Assembly from Karnataka, urging them to support amendments that would allow the reservation law to be implemented without conditions linked to the Census and delimitation. A delegation from the coalition also plans to meet the Chief Minister and other government representatives seeking a resolution in the upcoming Monsoon Session of the Karnataka Assembly for immediate implementation of the Act. **— BMB**

Muharram is all about tradition, outreach in Bengaluru

Muharram at Arab Lane in Bengaluru is being observed with a blend of long-standing religious traditions, community participation and renewed awareness initiatives that highlight the message of sacrifice of Imam Husain. The observances this year also include outreach campaigns aimed at educating the public about the significance of Karbala, alongside structured arrangements to ensure smooth participation of devotees during the mourning period.

The Bengaluru Shia community carried out awareness initiatives across the city under campaigns such as "Vehicle of Hope." Auto-rickshaws were seen carrying posters and messages about Imam Husain ibn Ali, with volunteers engaging in public outreach under the initiative "Who is Hussain."

Arab Lane occupies a significant place in Bengaluru's Shia history and is closely linked to the Persian merchant and philanthropist Aga Ali Asker, whose family contributed to the establishment of key Shia institutions in the city. The historic Masjid-e-Askari and the adjoining ashurkhana remain central to Muharram commemorations, continuing to attract mourners from across Bengaluru every year.

Observance this year includes awareness campaigns along with arrangements for smooth devotee participation

Sara Ali from the Shia community and Field Case Manager at Inspectre Solutions International, said, "On the 9th night of Muharram, devotees visit ashurkhanas and light candles as a symbol of remembrance and devotion. The soft glow represents grief for Imam Husain and the events of Karbala, as well as the values of truth, sacrifice and justice he stood for."

Speaking about this year's observances, Dr Zakaria Abbas, team leader of Who is Hussain, Bengaluru, said, "This year's Muharram observance at Arab Lane will continue its long-standing tradition of solemn religious gatherings, processions and community service that have been followed for generations."

He said a key highlight this year is the strengthened coordination between community volunteers, local authorities and medical teams to ensure a safe and well-organised experience for all devotees.

He further added, "Through these commemorations, we seek to promote the universal principles of sacrifice, justice, compassion, human dignity, and unity. We warmly welcome people of all faiths and communities to understand the true message of Karbala." **— Iffath Fathima**

Suspended pension beneficiaries get window to submit documents

The state government has granted a 30-day deadline to over 16.42 lakh social security pension beneficiaries whose pensions were temporarily suspended due to missing eligibility documents, proof of residence or income certificates. Revenue Department authorities will issue notices through respective tahsildars, and pensions will be restored immediately for beneficiaries found eligible after verification.

The move is part of a statewide scrutiny drive. Under this drive, 23.13 lakh of the state's 83.11 lakh pension accounts were flagged as suspicious and are being verified through the 'Sanyojane' mobile app. While pensions have continued for over 63 lakh eligible beneficiaries, the government has also decided to cancel the pensions of 91,152 beneficiaries found to have secured benefits using false or forged documents, according to the Revenue Department. **— BMB**

BangaloreMirror
K'taka suspends pensions of 18.45 lakh beneficiaries

BM published 'Karnataka suspends pensions of 18.45 lakh beneficiaries' on June 24, 2026, highlighting temporary suspension of pensions over suspected irregularities

Sewage tank tragedy: Body parts of missing worker recovered

Search operations continue, but toxic gases and poor visibility pose major challenges

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Eight days after two workers fell into a sewage treatment plant (STP) tank in Varthur, search teams recovered body parts of one of the missing victims, while the body of 30-year-old Akhilesh from Bihar is yet to be found. The search operation, which began last Thursday, is still ongoing.

The incident occurred on Thursday evening at around 6.10 pm at a Bengaluru Water Supply and Sewerage Board (BWSSB) sewage treatment facility in Belagere. Three labourers were carrying out maintenance work near the treatment tank when the accident took place.

File photo of a sewage treatment plant in Bengaluru

According to officials, the workers reportedly lost balance and slipped into the nearly 40-foot-deep tank while carrying out repair work on three gates in the treatment system. Karthik, one among the three workers, managed to escape and alerted other staff members.

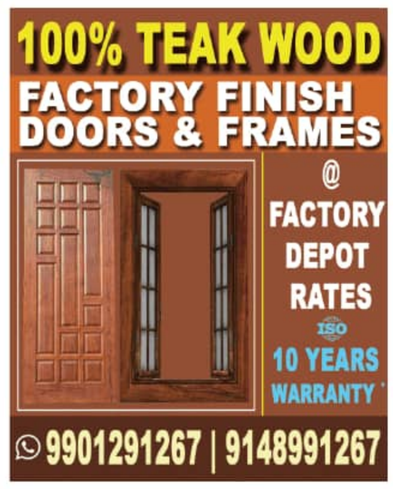
Personnel from the Fire and Emergency Services Department and the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) continue search operations. Toxic gases, poor visibility and strong water flow inside the tank have made rescue efforts extremely challenging.

The government announced Rs 10 lakh compensation for each deceased worker's family. During Thursday's silent protest outside the STP, activists demanded Rs 50 lakh compensation, citing the Rs 30 lakh legal minimum for sewer deaths. They also sought immediate recovery of the second body, accountability from officials and stricter safety measures.

Petition for higher compensation

Advocate Narasimha Murthy had submitted a representation to Chief Minister DK Shivakumar through BWSSB Chairperson Manjula, demanding Rs 50 lakh compensation each for the families of the workers.

"These workers operate in highly hazardous environments, often without proper protective gear. No amount of compensation can bring back the deceased, but accountability must be fixed on both BWSSB and the contractor. We have called for a meeting on Monday, where the authorities must respond to our demands and explain exactly what happened," said Murthy.



Bengaluru emerges as Karnataka's narcotics capital

City records significant rise in narcotics cases, underscoring its evolution as major transit, storage and distribution hub

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File photo of anti-drug abuse campaign in Bengaluru

Bengaluru's booming economy, thriving nightlife and vast migrant population have turned the city into one of the most lucrative drug markets in southern India. Investigators warn that the state capital is now at the heart of an expanding narcotics network stretching from international cartels to local peddlers.

The scale of the problem is staggering. In just the first five months of 2026, Bengaluru police booked 900 drug consumers and 310 peddlers, while narcotics worth Rs 170.59 crore were seized. The figures come close to the entire seizure value recorded in previous years, indicating that despite repeated crackdowns, the city's drug trade continues to flourish.

Law enforcement agencies say Bengaluru is no longer merely a destination for drugs; it has become a major transit, storage and distribution hub. Ganja enters Karnataka through forest routes along the Tamil Nadu and Kerala borders and by train from Andhra Pradesh, Odisha and Chhattisgarh. High-value synthetic drugs such as MDMA, LSD, ecstasy pills, cocaine and heroin are smuggled through international air cargo, courier services and postal networks, often disguised as cosmetics, herbal powders, gift parcels or sample products.

The numbers reveal the extent of the challenge. In 2023, Bengaluru police booked 704 peddlers and 2,825 consumers, bringing the total number of accused to 3,529. Drugs worth Rs 103.3 crore were seized that year. In 2024, authorities registered 530 NDPS cases involving 693 Indian nationals and 61 foreigners, with seizures valued at Rs 98.86 crore. The situation escalated further in 2025 when 1,401 people were booked and narcotics worth Rs 177.5 crore were seized.

The city is also witnessing a steady foreign connection in drug trafficking. Across Karnataka, 83 foreigners were arrested in NDPS cases in 2023, followed by 43 in 2024, 46 in 2025 and nine by February 2026.

A senior police official said, "What makes the trade particularly difficult to crack is its 'chain-system' model. Kingpins rarely handle drugs directly. Instead, the network relies on couriers, cab drivers, students, migrant workers and temporary carriers. Parcels are booked under fake names, received by different individuals and distributed through multiple layers, making it difficult for investigators to trace the masterminds."

Officials say Bengaluru's strategic location, extensive logistics infrastructure, warehousing facilities and high-spending consumer base have made it a preferred hub for drug syndicates.

The concern extends beyond narcotics consumption. Investigators suspect that drug profits are being channelled into real estate, pubs, bars, event management businesses, gold purchases and cryptocurrency investments.

Meanwhile, Home Minister Priyank Kharge ordered a multi-pronged crackdown on narcotics, combining strict law enforcement with technology-driven surveillance and public participation.

Chairing a high-level review meeting recently, he directed authorities to intensify action against drug suppliers, strengthen inter-departmental coordination and expand awareness campaigns from urban centres to villages.

"Schools, colleges, industries and gram panchayats will be roped in to educate people about the dangers of drug abuse, while advanced digital platforms and data-sharing mechanisms will be leveraged to track and curb narcotics networks," Kharge said.

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Bengaluru lake pollution blame game intensifies

KSPCB tells NGT no entity is discharging treated or untreated sewage into lakes, but conservationists find this hard to believe and seek accountability from agencies

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The Karnataka State Pollution Control Board (KSPCB) has informed the National Green Tribunal (NGT) that industries, apartment complexes, commercial establishments, hotels, hospitals, and other entities regulated under its consent mechanism are not discharging treated or untreated sewage into Bengaluru's lakes.

The Board made this submission in an affidavit filed before the NGT after the tribunal issued a notice based on a Bangalore Mirror report.

According to KSPCB, Consent for Establishment is granted only to projects and industries that comply with government guidelines concerning lakes and tanks. The Board also mandates that industries, apartments, commercial complexes, IT/BT units, hotels, and hospitals install sewage and effluent treatment systems.

"KSPCB grants Consent for Establishment only to projects or industries which strictly meet the guidelines notified by the Government of Karnataka with respect to lakes and tanks. KSPCB also insists that industries, apartments, commercial complexes, IT/BT units, hotels, hospitals, etc., set up their sewage and effluent treatment systems. As a consequence, typically there has been no discharge of treated or untreated sewage from these sectors," the affidavit states.

The Board added that it scrutinises applications with due caution to eliminate any possibility of pollution. Establishments are required to treat domestic sewage and industrial effluents to prescribed standards and reuse treated water within their premises for secondary purposes such as gardening, toilet flushing, cooling water makeup, and construction activities.

Deteriorating lakes challenge board's assertion of effective pollution control

However, lake conservationists have disputed the Board's claims, calling the affidavit misleading and inconsistent with ground realities.

"The condition of Byramangala, Nelagadaranahalli, and Shivapura lakes is testimony to the fact that untreated sewage is being discharged into surface water bodies by industries and commercial establishments," said V Ramprasad, founder of Friends of Lakes.

In its affidavit, KSPCB highlighted the role of civic and government agencies in protecting Bengaluru's lakes. The Board stated that lakes and tanks in and around the city fall under the jurisdiction of various authorities, including the Bengaluru Development Authority (BDA), Bengaluru Water Supply and Sewerage Board (BWSSB), Greater Bengaluru Authority (formerly BBMP), and village panchayats.

> **"The condition of Byramangala, Nelagadaranahalli, and Shivapura lakes is testimony to the fact that untreated sewage is being discharged into surface water bodies by industries and commercial establishments**
> – V Ramprasad, Founder, Friends of Lakes

"As such, these government authorities have to exercise their powers to protect the lakes and ensure that they are maintained in an ecologically sustainable manner," the Board stated.

KSPCB further informed the tribunal that it has issued notices to the GBA, BDA, and BWSSB, directing them to prevent polluted water from entering lakes.

"As per the report, KSPCB has put the onus of lake pollution on BBMP (GBA), BWSSB, and BDA. The NGT should initiate punitive action against these agencies and ensure that the Polluter Pays Principle is applied," Ramprasad said.

Timely tech help for equipment malfunction hard to come by

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

equipped with smart classrooms, followed by Lakshadweep (86.1%), Punjab (80.1%), Delhi (75.7%) and Puducherry (72.5%). The data points to significant interstate disparities, with several states continuing to struggle with limited digital infrastructure in schools. Experts say the presence of smart classroom equipment alone is not enough to improve learning outcomes.

Dr. Amith K Jain, Assistant Professor, Department of Electronics and Communication Engineering, said a smart classroom is not merely a technology upgrade. "It is an investment in creating more engaging, inclusive, and effective learning environments. Today's students learn best through interactive and visual experiences, and smart classrooms enable educators to move beyond traditional teaching methods by incorporating multimedia content, simulations, videos, and real-time demonstrations. These tools help students understand complex concepts more easily, encourage critical thinking, and transform them from passive learners into active participants in the learning process."

He said that despite their immense potential, widespread adoption remains a challenge.

Pointing out similar concerns, a member of the Community Services-Education Team of Rotary Bangalore IT Corridor said, "Despite the growing emphasis on digital education, there are several challenges in expanding smart classroom adoption. One of the biggest hurdles is the lack of adequately trained teachers who can effectively integrate technology into teaching. While infrastructure may be available, many teachers require continuous training and support to use digital tools meaningfully. Internet connectivity remains a concern, particularly in rural areas, while frequent power outages and inadequate backup systems further disrupt usage. Resistance to moving away from traditional teaching methods can also slow adoption."

Jain added that many schools, particularly in rural areas, continue to face limitations related to infrastructure, reliable electricity, internet connectivity, and the ongoing costs of maintaining digital equipment. "Equally important is the need for continuous teacher training to ensure that technology is integrated meaningfully into classroom instruction. Addressing these challenges requires sustained investments in infrastructure, capacity building, and long-term support systems. With the right ecosystem in place, smart classrooms can play a transformative role in improving learning outcomes and preparing students with the skills needed for a rapidly evolving digital world," he said.

The Rotary team member added that another concern was that smart classrooms often become platforms for passive content consumption rather than interactive learning. "In many cases, students simply access pre-loaded content with limited teacher engagement, reducing the potential impact on learning outcomes. Maintenance is also a major challenge, as schools often lack timely technical support when equipment develops faults. To improve implementation, the government must focus not only on infrastructure but also on teacher training, reliable internet connectivity, power backup systems and regular maintenance. A holistic approach is essential to ensure smart classrooms become effective learning tools rather than merely digital installations."

With nearly three-fourths of schools in Karnataka still lacking functional smart classrooms, education experts say addressing infrastructure gaps, teacher preparedness and long-term maintenance will be critical if digital learning is to become a meaningful part of classroom education across the state.

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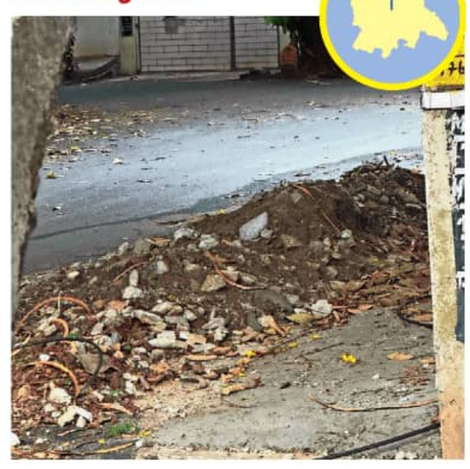
Garbage menace

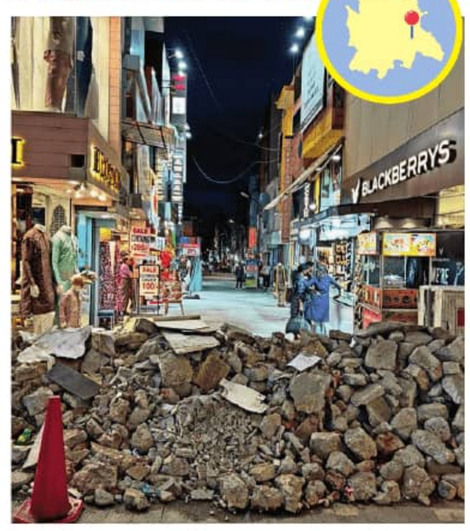
HSR Layout



Dry leaves and debris continue to be dumped at 21st Cross in HSR Layout's 7th Sector, while both ends of 13th Main Road remain poorly maintained and infested with rodents. Residents allege that despite repeated complaints, authorities have failed to take any lasting corrective action.

Access blocked

Commercial street



Roadwork at the entrance of Jewellers Street, 4th Cross, in the Commercial Street area has obstructed the stretch, disrupting access and hindering movement for residents, shoppers, and commuters.

Road hazard

K Narayanapura

Residents of K Narayanapura have raised concerns over loose gravel left on Golden Palms Road for several weeks, causing inconvenience and safety concerns for commuters.

CRIME FILES

Jewellery trail leads to break-in bandit

Kadugodi Police have arrested a man accused of a burglary reported on May 30 and recovered stolen gold and silver ornaments worth Rs 16.5 lakh.

The accused was apprehended near Sunkadakatte on 8 June after police developed leads while investigating the case, in which silver ornaments were stolen during a break-in at the victim's residence

During interrogation, he revealed that he had pledged and sold portions of the stolen gold ornaments in Peenya and Sunkadakatte, and had hidden additional ornaments near a railway track in Whitefield.

Based on his statement, police recovered 102 grams of gold ornaments and 536 grams of silver ornaments between June 9 and 17.

The recovered property is valued at Rs 16.5 lakh. The accused was remanded to judicial custody on June 17. **–BMB**

Habitual offender locked up for a year

Indiranagar Police have detained rowdy sheeter Suhail Pasha, 33, a native of Mysuru, under the Karnataka Goonda Act.

Police said he is involved in more than 54 criminal cases, including robbery, chain-snatching and mobile-snatching offences, and primarily targeted women, senior citizens and lone travellers.

Seeking to prevent further offences, police proposed his detention, citing repeated absconding and failure to appear before courts. He has 30 pending court orders against him, including six proclamation orders and 24 non-bailable warrants.

Following approval from senior officers and the Police Commissioner, he was arrested on May 14 and lodged in Central Prison.

On June 4, the High Court Advisory Board approved his preventive detention for one year. A confirmation order was issued on June 19. **–BMB**

Crypto con ends in ₹17-lakh robbery

Sanjay Nagar Police have arrested 12 persons for allegedly robbing a man on the pretext of converting Indian currency into USDT cryptocurrency.

The victim, a Kodigehalli resident planning to open a café, came into contact with the accused through a WhatsApp group linked to cryptocurrency trading. After an initial transaction, he agreed to exchange Rs 17.64 lakh for cryptocurrency and met the accused in Sanjay Nagar on June 9.

Police said the accused snatched the cash, assaulted the victim and his brother, and fled without completing the transaction. During the investigation, all 12 accused were arrested between June 11 and 16. Police recovered Rs 13.9 lakh in cash, six two-wheelers, a car and 13 mobile phones used in the crime. One accused remains absconding. **–BMB**

Wall drill theft ends with silver recovery

Halasuru Police Station officers have arrested a man and recovered 5 kg of silver ornaments worth Rs 12.5 lakh in connection with a theft at a silver jewellery shop on Car Street.

The case was registered after the shop owner reported on April 30 that burglars had drilled through the shop wall on the night of April 29 and stolen nearly 10 kg of silver ornaments.

Acting on leads, police arrested the suspect in Shankarapuram, Tamil Nadu, on May 20. During interrogation, he allegedly confessed to the theft and revealed that he had sold the stolen ornaments to a jewellery shop in Madanur, Tamil Nadu.

Based on his statement, police recovered 5 kg of silver ornaments on June 1. The accused was remanded to judicial custody on June 2. **–BMB**

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K'taka pushes the pedal on EV bandwagon, is first in the South

Early EV policy, incentives and tech ecosystem drive the state's rise, but charging infrastructure gaps still hinder sustainable, long-term mobility goals

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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

The Karnataka is leading all southern states in the adoption of electric vehicles (EVs), according to data from the Vahan portal. The state has registered more than 3.19 lakh pure battery-operated vehicles, the highest among the five southern states. Tamil Nadu follows with nearly 2.82 lakh EVs, while Kerala has registered around 1.67 lakh electric vehicles. Andhra Pradesh has over 1.08 lakh EVs, and Telangana trails with just 23,551 registrations.

Karnataka is also among the top-performing states nationally in terms of EV adoption. With over 3.19 lakh registered electric vehicles, it ranks third in the country, behind only Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh. Maharashtra tops the national chart with approximately 4.76 lakh EVs, followed by Uttar Pradesh with 4.27 lakh registrations.

City-based mobility experts say there are multiple factors behind Karnataka's strong performance in electric vehicle (EV) adoption.

According to Professor Ashish Verma of the Sustainable Transportation Lab at the Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Karnataka was among the early movers in introducing a dedicated EV policy. The state government has consistently taken an aggressive approach to promoting electric mobility through incentives, policy support, and tax exemptions. Bengaluru's position as a major manufacturing and technology hub has also contributed significantly to the growth of the EV ecosystem.

Moreover, the declining quality of life caused by worsening traffic congestion, air pollution, and rising fuel costs is encouraging more people to shift towards cleaner mobility options. Additionally, Bengaluru's relatively high disposable incomes have further supported EV adoption.

"Greater awareness about the environmental benefits of EVs, coupled with higher average incomes, has also driven adoption. In many other states, consumers remain reluctant to pay the premium associated with electric vehicles. Karnataka, particularly Bengaluru, benefits from a combination of favourable economic conditions, environmental awareness, and policy incentives," said Professor Verma.

However, strong registration numbers do not necessarily mean that Karnataka has achieved its EV ambitions, say experts. EV penetration in the state is still far below the levels envisioned under the state's 2030 mobility goals.

"The push towards electric mobility is also being shaped by global concerns around oil price volatility, energy security, and the long-term sustainability of fossil fuel-based transportation," said a city-based mobility expert.

Professor Verma, however, opined that the future of urban mobility cannot rely solely on replacing petrol and diesel vehicles with battery-operated vehicles. A sustainable transport system must prioritize shared, electric, and active mobility in Bengaluru and across the state.

Public transport systems such as Metro rail and the upcoming suburban rail network are integral components of the broader electric mobility agenda.

On the infrastructure front, experts highlight the lack of a scientific and data-driven approach in Karnataka. They say that while the charging infrastructure is expanding, it is neither efficient nor optimal. Agencies and service providers are not sufficiently integrating travel behaviour data, trip distances, charging requirements, and origin-destination patterns into their planning processes.

Strong EV registrations highlight state's progress, yet experts warn fragmented infrastructure and limited penetration threaten sustainability. Broader focus on shared mobility and public transport is vital for future success

"Charging stations should ideally be located based on detailed analyses of travel demand and user behaviour rather than solely on utility expansion plans. While agencies such as BESCOM, private charging operators, startups, and mobility service providers are all contributing to the EV ecosystem, there is limited coordination among them. As a result, infrastructure is expanding, but not always efficiently or optimally," added Professor Verma.

Gruha Lakshmi audit uncovers irregularities worth ₹225 crore

The Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) has flagged alleged irregularities worth ₹225 crore in the state government's flagship 'Gruha Lakshmi' scheme within its first two years of implementation, according to audit findings cited in official correspondence with the Women and Child Development Department. The audit identified

CAG flags deceased beneficiaries, duplicate bank accounts and tender lapses, questioning ₹225 crore spent under Gruha Lakshmi scheme

multiple discrepancies, including payments made to deceased beneficiaries, duplicate bank accounts and irregularities in handling data related to the scheme's 1.23 crore beneficiaries. CAG also raised concerns over delays in submitting compliance reports despite repeated follow-ups with the department. Preliminary scrutiny using data analytics found nearly 2.88 lakh deceased beneficiaries during the audited period, while over 10 lakh beneficiaries were linked to multiple bank accounts. The audit also flagged contracts worth ₹3.98 crore for advertisements allegedly awarded without open tendering and sought detailed explanations, which the department is yet to submit. It also pointed to repeated changes in beneficiary bank details and inconsistent payment patterns across several accounts during the review.

Reacting to the CAG report, the Women and Child Development Department, in a statement, said, "There has been no lapse in the implementation of the Gruha Lakshmi Scheme. Ineligible beneficiaries, including income tax and GST taxpayers, are being regularly excluded based on verified data, while the process of removing deceased beneficiaries is ongoing. Any payments made due to delays in updating death records are being recovered, and all benefits are being transferred transparently to eligible beneficiaries through Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT)." — BMB

Bengaluru needs alternate commute plans

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

investigations pointed to damage in the third-rail power supply system, affecting the train's current collection equipment and causing a loss of power. Bengaluru South MP Tejaswi Surya said, "Since January 2024, this is the 21st reported technical disruption on Namma Metro, raising serious concerns about the reliability. Ironically, no Metro charges commuters as much as BMRCL does." Surya stated that he has written to the Commissioner of Railway Safety (Southern Circle) seeking an inquiry into the incident. He demanded that BMRCL disclose the prescribed inspection frequency for third-rail infrastructure, details of the last inspection of the affected section, whether inspections were conducted in-house or by a third-party agency, and make public all maintenance records, inspection reports and audit findings related to the section over the past 12 months.

Echoing similar concerns, Bengaluru Central MP PC Mohan said the recurring failures point to a larger problem within the Metro system. "Recurring disruptions on Bengaluru Metro's Purple Line point to deeper systemic and administrative failures, not an isolated glitch," he said, urging BMRCL to conduct a comprehensive technical audit, permanently rectify signalling and operational issues, and fix accountability for the repeated breakdowns. The disruption has highlighted the absence of a robust contingency transport plan when Metro services are affected. During Tuesday's breakdown, thousands of commuters were left stranded and forced to rely on overcrowded buses, private vehicles and even tractors and trucks to reach their destinations.

Communication gaps

Several commuters criticised the lack of timely information during the disruption. Many passengers said they learnt about the scale of the problem only after reaching stations and finding long queues and crowded platforms. Regular commuter Sandeep Kumar said the immediate fault may have been resolved, but the larger concern is the absence of alternative arrangements whenever Metro services collapse.

Transport experts say Bengaluru can no longer afford to treat Metro disruptions as isolated incidents. With ridership increasing every year, they argue the city needs a structured emergency response plan that includes dedicated Metro replacement buses, pre-planned traffic diversions, real-time passenger alerts and better coordination between BMRCL, BMTC and traffic police.

Global Benchmarks

Transit Bridging: New York and Singapore immediately activate pre-contracted private bus lines to duplicate failed rail routes at street level.
Surface Priority: Infrastructure policies in Seoul ensure that emergency transit vehicles bypass traffic queues via dedicated lanes.
Fare Mutualisation: Transit passes in Paris and Madrid allow free, immediate transfers to trams and surface buses during rail crises.
Active Commuting: Micro Mobility partnerships in Berlin eliminate unlock fees for public e-scooters near disrupted corridors.
Crowd Metering: Hong Kong gates dynamically restrict platform access during emergencies to preserve passenger safety zone minimums.
Early Redirection: Commuters in London are diverted via early-warning digital alerts multiple stations ahead of an active bottleneck.
Segmented Loops: Operations in Tokyo utilise immediate track switching to run partial routes around a localised incident zone.

Namma Metro Service Faults

March 2019 (Chickpet): Green Line operations faced a half-hour delay after a sudden mechanical issue on a train.
July 2023 (Baiyappanahalli–K.R. Puram): Commuters faced congestion due to a signaling glitch during infrastructure upgrades.
January 2024 (MG Road–Baiyappanahalli): Segmented loops were deployed after a two-hour power grid halt on the Purple Line.
February 2024 (Baiyappanahalli–Garudacharpalya): Severe train spacing issues occurred due to an automated communication drop.
June 2026 (Cubbon Park): The network's most severe structural failure happened when a broken fastener tore through the 750V third-rail connector.

POCSO case: '17-year-old was in consensual relationship'

Court observes girl was mature enough and could understand implications of conduct

Bangalore Mirror Bureau
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The High Court has granted regular bail to a 28-year-old man accused under the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act for allegedly marrying a 17-year-old girl and having a sexual relationship with her. The Court observed that the girl was aware of the consequences of her actions and that the case arose from a consensual relationship between the two.

Justice S Vishwajith Shetty, while allowing the bail petition, noted that the accused and the girl were in a romantic relationship and had married each other. The Court took into account the circumstances of the case, including the nature of the relationship and the statements placed on record.

According to the prosecution, a criminal case had been registered against the man for offences under the POCSO Act and other relevant provisions after it was alleged that he had married the minor girl and engaged in sexual relations with her. The girl was below 18 years of age at the time of the alleged incidents.

While considering the bail plea, the Court observed that the girl was around 17 years old and possessed sufficient maturity and worldly understanding to comprehend the implications of her conduct. The judge also noted that the materials on record suggested that the relationship between the accused and the girl was consensual in nature. However, these observations were made only for the purpose of deciding the bail application and would not influence the trial.

IN HIGH COURT

The High Court further considered that the investigation had been completed and the charge sheet had already been filed. Since custodial interrogation was no longer required, the Court found it appropriate to enlarge the accused on bail, subject to conditions imposed to ensure his participation in the trial and to prevent any interference with witnesses or evidence.

9 rescued dogs safeguarded from abusive owner

The Karnataka High Court has set aside a lower court order that directed the return of nine rescued dogs to their owner, holding that the animals should continue to remain in the care of animal welfare organisations while the criminal investigation is underway.

Justice M Nagaprasanna, while hearing a petition filed by People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) India, observed that animals cannot be treated merely as property and are entitled to dignity, compassion and protection under the law. The court quashed an April 25 order of a magistrate court granting interim custody of the dogs to their owner, K E Ramesh.

The case involves six Golden Retrievers and three Shih Tzus rescued by the Peenya police in February after allegations that the dogs had been subjected to repeated physical abuse and sexual assault. Police subsequently registered an FIR under the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act and the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita.

The Court observed that animals, though unable to speak, can experience pain and suffering. It also expressed shock over the magistrate court's order, noting that photographs and videos placed on record allegedly showed the dogs being repeatedly beaten. The court held that returning the animals to the accused during the investigation was unjustifiable and directed that they remain with the animal welfare organisations caring for them until the investigation and trial conclude. **–BMB**

Businessman found dead at actress's apartment

A 45-year-old businessman with a recent criminal case history was found dead at the residence of actress and former Bigg Boss contestant Krishi Thapanda in Bengaluru's Rajarajeshwarinagar (RR Nagar) on Wednesday night, police said. Police suspect he has died by suicide.

The deceased has been identified as Vaishak, a resident of Girinagar. According to police, he had been staying at Thapanda's apartment in RR Nagar for the past few days and was alone at the time of the incident. The case came to light on Thursday morning when he was found dead inside the apartment.

Preliminary investigation suggests that Vaishak was suffering from depression. Police said he had a key to the apartment and frequently visited the flat. On Wednesday night, he allegedly took the extreme step while alone.

Officials said no suicide note was recovered from the scene. Before the incident, Vaishak had reportedly called Thapanda, who was away in Nelamangala, and informed her about his intention to end his life. He is also believed to have sent distress messages. After noticing the messages, Thapanda alerted Vaishak's family members, who rushed to the apartment and found him unresponsive. Based on a complaint from Vaishak's father, RR Nagar police registered a case of unnatural death and began the investigation.

Vaishak had earlier been arrested in an alleged extortion case involving businessman Aravind Reddy. Investigators alleged that a threatening letter demanding a huge amount of money along with an apology was sent to Reddy through a courier service. Based on the complaint, Vaishak was arrested and later released on bail. RR Nagar police have registered a case of unnatural death and are investigating. **–BMB**

Polio immunisation drive to begin on June 28

Despite India remaining polio-free for more than 14 years, health authorities are continuing intensive vaccination efforts to prevent the re-entry of the virus into the country. As part of this initiative, the National Immunization Day (Pulse Polio Programme) will be observed across Karnataka on June 28, targeting nearly 62 lakh children below the age of five years.

India reported its last case of wild poliovirus on January 13, 2011, in Howrah district of West Bengal, and has maintained its polio-free status ever since. However, the risk of importation remains due to the continued circulation of wild poliovirus in neighbouring countries. In 2026, Pakistan has reported one case of wild poliovirus while Afghanistan has reported three cases.

Poliovirus exists in three serotypes—Type 1, Type 2 and Type 3. Type 2 was declared eradicated globally by the World Health Organization (WHO) in 2015 after no cases were reported since 1999. Type 3 was certified eradicated in October 2019. Currently, all wild poliovirus cases reported globally are caused by Type 1.

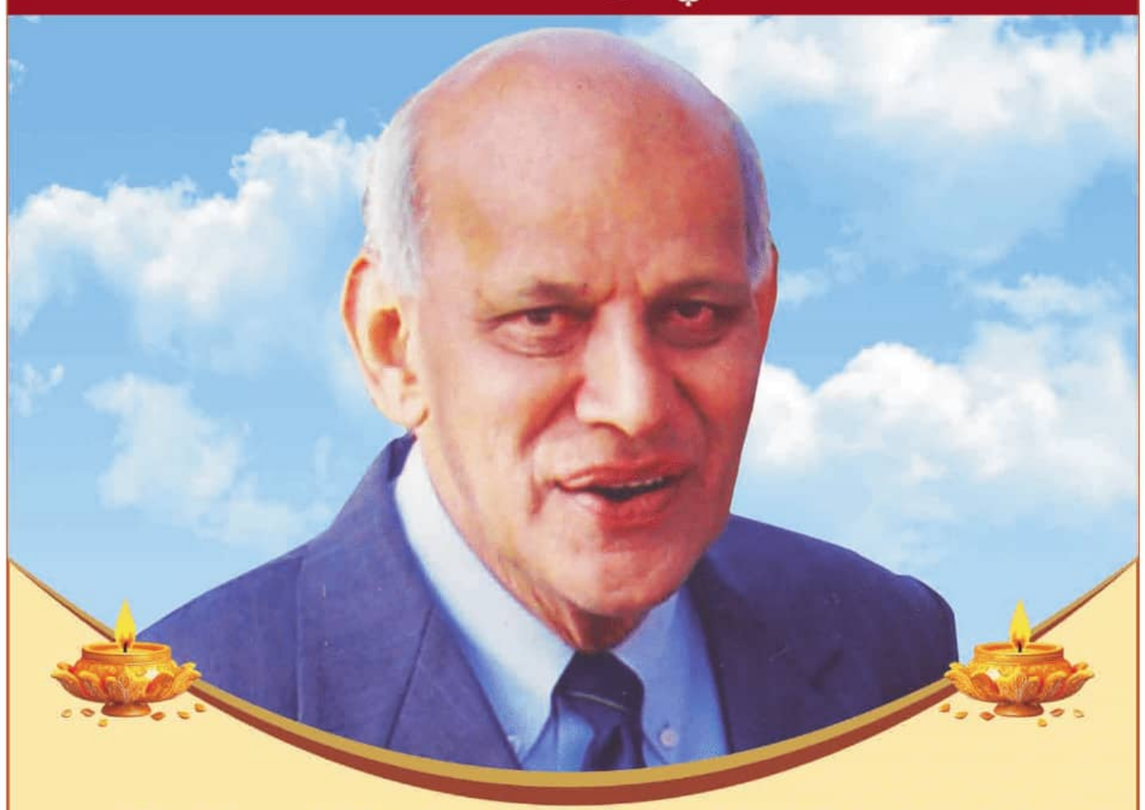
Karnataka will conduct a statewide Pulse Polio campaign using bivalent Oral Polio Vaccine (bOPV), which protects against Type 1 and Type 3 poliovirus strains.

On the first day of the campaign, children will receive oral polio vaccine doses at designated booths. This will be followed by house-to-house visits over the next two to three days to ensure that no child is missed. Special attention will be given to children in migrant communities, urban slums, brick kilns, remote villages, hilly regions and other high-risk areas.

The state has planned an extensive outreach operation with 36,076 vaccination booths, 988 mobile teams, 2,125 transit teams, 1,14,213 vaccinators and 7,197 supervisors. Vaccination booths will also be set up at railway stations, metro stations, airports and seaports to reach travelling families.

Health officials emphasised that every child below five years of age, including newborns, must receive the oral polio vaccine during the campaign, irrespective of the number of doses already received. Under the Routine Immunization Programme, every child receives five doses of Oral Polio Vaccine (OPV) and three doses of Inactivated Polio Vaccine (IPV).

ಭಾವಪೂರ್ಣ ಶ್ರದ್ಧಾಂಜಲಿ



ನವೋದ್ಯಮ, ನಾಯಕತ್ವ ಹಾಗೂ ಸಮಾಜ ಸೇವೆಯ ಆದರ್ಶ, ದೂರದೃಷ್ಟಿಯ ನಾಯಕ,
ಮಹಾನ್ ಚೇತನ, ಕೈಗಾರಿಕೋದ್ಯಮಿ, ಲೋಕೋಪಕಾರಿ, ಆಧ್ಯಾತ್ಮಿಕ ಚಿಂತಕರಾಗಿದ್ದ

ಶ್ರೀ ಆರ್.ವಿ. ಶಿರಗಾವಕರ (ರಾಜಾಭಾವು)

ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರು, ಶಿರಗಾವಕರ ಗ್ರೂಪ್ ಆಫ್ ಇಂಡಸ್ಟ್ರೀಜ್

* ಜನನ: 10-06-1935 * ಮರಣ: 25-06-2026

ಉಗಾರ ಶುಗರ ವರ್ಕ್ಸ್ ಲಿಮಿಟೆಡ್ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯನ್ನು ಸುವರ್ಣ ಯುಗಕ್ಕೆ ಕೊಂಡೊಯ್ದ ಧೀಯ ನಾಯಕರು

ಸುಸ್ಥಿರ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಮತ್ತು ಪರಿಸರ ಸಂರಕ್ಷಣೆಗೆ ಮುನ್ನುಡಿಯುತ ನೀರು ಶುದ್ಧೀಕರಣ ಯೋಜನೆಗಳ ಕಾರ್ಯಕರ್ತರು

ಅಖಿಲ ಭಾರತ ಡಿಸ್ಟಿಲರ್ಸ್ ಅಸೋಸಿಯೇಶನ್ಸ್ ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರಾಗಿ (1982-84) ಕೈಗಾರಿಕೆಗೆ ಹೊಸ ಮಾನದಂಡಗಳನ್ನು ನಿರ್ಧರಿಸಿದ ನಾಯಕ

"ಲೈಫ್‌ಟೈಮ್ ಅಚೀವಮೆಂಟ್" ಹಾಗೂ "ರಾಜೀವ ಗಾಂಧಿ ಅಕ್ಷಯ ಊರ್ಜಾ ದಿವಸ್" ಪ್ರಶಸ್ತಿ ಸೇರಿದಂತೆ ಅನೇಕ ಗೌರವಗಳಿಗೆ ಪಾತ್ರರು.

ಆರು ದಶಕಗಳಿಗೂ ಅಧಿಕ ಕಾಲ ಸಕ್ಕರೆ ಉದ್ಯಮ ಸೇರಿದಂತೆ
ಅನೇಕ ಕ್ಷೇತ್ರಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಅಪಾರ ಸೇವೆ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಿದ ಅವರನ್ನು ನಾವು ಕಳೆದುಕೊಂಡಿರುವುದು ತುಂಬಾ ದುಃಖದ ಸಂಗತಿ.
ಅವರ ಜ್ಞಾನ, ಪ್ರಾಮಾಣಿಕತೆ, ಸೇವಾಭಾವ ಮತ್ತು ಮಾನವೀಯ ಮೌಲ್ಯಗಳು ನಮಗೆ ಸದಾಕಾಲ ಪ್ರೇರಣೆಯಾಗಿರಲಿವೆ.

********** ಶ್ರದ್ಧಾಂಜಲಿ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸುವವರು **********

* ಮೆ|| ಎಸ್ ಬಿ ರಿಸೆಲ್ಲರ್ಸ್ ಪ್ರೈ.ಲಿ., ಕೋಲ್ಹಾಪೂರ
* ಮೆ|| ಉಗಾರ ಪೈಪ್ ಇಂಡಸ್ಟ್ರೀಜ್ ಪ್ರೈ.ಲಿ., ಉಗಾರಖುರ್ದ
* ಮೆ|| ಸಿನರ್ಜಿ ಗ್ರೀನ್ ಇಂಡಸ್ಟ್ರೀ ಲಿ., ಕೋಲ್ಹಾಪೂರ
* ಮೆ|| ತಾರಾ ಟೈಲ್ಸ್ ಪ್ರೈ.ಲಿ., ಕೋಲ್ಹಾಪೂರ
* ಮೆ|| ಇಂಟಲೆಕ್ಚುವಲ್ ರಿಸರ್ಚ್ ಸರ್ವಿಸ್ ಪ್ರೈ.ಲಿ., ಪುಣೆ
* ಡಾ. ಶಿರಗಾವಕರ ಶಿಕ್ಷಣ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆ, ಉಗಾರಖುರ್ದ
* ಹೋಟೆಲ್ ಪೆವೆಲಿಯನ್, ಕೋಲ್ಹಾಪೂರ
* ಶ್ರೀ ಬಾಬುಕಾಕಾ ಶಿರಗಾವಕರ ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಶಿಕ್ಷಣ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯ – ಕೈಗಾರಿಕಾ ಶಿಕ್ಷಣ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆ, ಉಗಾರಖುರ್ದ
* ಶ್ರೀ ವಿನಾಯಕರಾವ ಶಿರಗಾವಕರ ಪ್ರತಿಷ್ಠಾನ, ಉಗಾರಖುರ್ದ, ದಿ ಉಗಾರ ಶುಗರ ವರ್ಕ್ಸ್ ಕಾಮಗಾರ ಮತ್ತು
* ಡಾ. ಶಿರಗಾವಕರ ಶೈಕ್ಷಣಿಕ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆ ಕೋ-ಆಪ್. ಕ್ರೆಡಿಟ್ ಸೊಸೈಟಿ ಲಿ., ಉಗಾರಖುರ್ದ
* ಶ್ರೀ ವಿಠ್ಠಲದೇವ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆ, ಉಗಾರಖುರ್ದ.

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tender & notices

PUBLIC NOTICE

IN THE COURT OF MOTOR ACCIDENT CLAIMS TRIBUNAL AT BENGALURU (SCCH-15)
MVC NO.5857/2025
BETWEEN
Akarsh M.E ...Petitioner
And
M.C. Suhash & another.
...Respondents
Notice to Respondent No.1
Mr. M.C. Suhash
S/o: Chandrababu
No.944, Ground Floor, 2nd Cross, LBS Nagar, 2nd Block, Anjanapura, Bengaluru 560062.
Take notice that the above petitioner have filed the above claim petition against the Respondents for the compensation of Rs.30,00,000/- for the grievous injuries sustained by the petitioner, in a Road Traffic Accident that occurred on 12-03-2025 involving Tata ACE bearing No. KA-05-AN-9950 at about 1.50 p.m., Infront of VBHC Apartment road, Doddabele, Kengeri Hobli, Bengaluru South, Bengaluru. The Respondent No.1 above named is hereby directed to appear before this Hon'ble Court either in person or through the pleader on the day **16-07-2026** before **SCCH-15** at **11.00 a.m.**, to defend the above case, failing which the matter will be determined as Ex-parte.
Given under my hand & seal of the court on this th day of 23rd April 2026.
By order of the Court
Assistant Registrar
Court of Small Cause
Bangalore-560 000
Advocate for petitioner:
MANJUNATH H.S, Advocate,
No.M-46, 7th Cross,
Lakshminarayanapura,
Market Road, Bengaluru-560021
6361263023/ 8050166457

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- Digital Marketing Execs
- Marketing & Community Execs
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- Billing & TPA Execs
- Patient Care Coordinator
- IT In-Charge & Tech Support
- Sr. Biomedical Engineer
- Facility Execs
- Maintenance Staff (Electrician/Plumber/Driver)

CLINICAL
- RMOs (Day/Night)
- Nursing Superintendent
- Nurses (Ward, Critical Care, ER& Scrub)
- Lab/IVF Lab In-Charge / Technicians
- Pharmacy Manager & Pharmacists

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- General Surgeon
- General Physician / Diabetologist
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- Gastroenterologist
- Urologist
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CHANGE OF NAME

I, VIMALESH S/O BHASKAR SHET residing at NO. 501, RUDRAKSHI, GROUND FLOOR, JYOTHI NAGAR, NELAMANGALA NEW TOWN, NELAMANGALA, BENGALURU RURAL, KARNATAKA - 562123 have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as MUDITTH B S vide Affidavit dated 30/08/2025 before Notary RAJKUMAR

I, Swati Satish Prabhu (Old Name), W/o Arjun Anil Shenvi, aged about 29 years, R/a No.24, Sudarshan Nilaya, Gangadhar Layout, Vijayanagar, Bengaluru - 560040, have, after my marriage, changed my name to read as ANUSHREE ARJUN SHENVI (New Name) vide affidavit dated 25.06.2026 sworn before notary MK Devaki.

I, Jaganatha G N, S/o Ramaiah Narayana reddy, R/at No.92, Govinda Shetty Palya, Electronic City Phase-2, Bangalore-560100, have changed my name to JAGANNATHREDDY G N, vide affidavit dt: 22.06.2026, Notary V. Rangaraju, B.lore.

I Shanker Venkateshmurthy S/O, Venkatesh Murthy Krishnappa R/o No 75/2, 15th Main, 1st Cross, Hmt Layout Gokula Mathikere Bengaluru (karnataka) - 560054 have changed my name to Shankar Venkateshmurthy.

I, Priyanka Goel, w/o Sahil Gupta, R/o No-91 & 92 Ex-Servicemen Colony, Near Chaitanya Hospital, Dinnur Main Road , B'luru-560032. have changed my name to Priyanka Gupta for all Purposes.

I, Hamsa M, Wife of Chakravarthi N, residing at No. 284, Chamundi Nagar, BSK 3rd Stage, B'luru-560085, have corrected my name as Amsa M. Henceforth, I shall be known as Amsa M, for all purposes.

I, Viswanageshwar Konda R/o 201,2nd Flr, SLV Grand Apts, Vasantha Vallabna Nagar B'lore-560078 have Changed my name to Viswa Nageswara Konda.

I, Kaavya Hasini Thillai Elayaraja R/o 69/6 T1 Amrutha Priya Residency Dasarahalli B'lore-560024 have changed my name to Kaavya Hasini.

I, Faiza Anjum w/o Mohammed Afhan # 7 Cooks Road Shivaji Nagar, Blr-51, have changed my name to Faiza Anjum N for all purposes

I Muniraju M s/o Munibyrappa No 12 Laggere have changed my name from Muniraja M to Muniraju M for all the purpose

I, Mujahid R/o 279 Daayananda Slum Siddapura Jayanagar 1st Block B'lore-560011 have changed my name to Mujahida Parveen.

I Shama Ismail W/O, Ismail Shahul Hamed Manna R/o No. 1, A2, 2nd Floor, Rabiya Enclave, 2nd A Cross, Manorayana Palya, Sultan Palya, Rt Nagar, Bengaluru 560032 have changed my name to Shama Ismail Manna.

LOST & FOUND

I, Jokim, residing at No 571 Joga street near Nageshwara temple, Begur, Bangalore – 560068 have lost my Registered Sale Deed (No. 4511 of 2009. Registered at Denkanikottai Sub Registrar's Office. Survey No. 26, Sub No. 4. Total Extent 1 Acre 60 Cents. Land belongs to Chikkaaveripalli, village Denkanikottai (T),Krishnagiri Dist.) in Begur Bangalore on 23/06/2026. If anybody find please handover to the nearest police station or above address

I Asima Mulla residing at #36 1st cross ITI Layout Vijinapura Doorvani Nagar Bangalore 560016 have lost my 10th grade ICSE marksheet and Transfer certificate exam year 1995 roll number T/136/020 passout ICSE finder contact 9880990253

DOCUMENT LOST
I, Mohan R, r/at MSR Neepa, 3rd Cross, JP Nagar, Puttenahalli, Bangalore have lost my Sale Certificate issued by Punjab National Bank, ARMB Bangalore dated 27.03.2026. Police Complaint given vide L R No. 2271309/2026 dated 24.06.2026. If found please call 9964984898

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SRI LANKA 07 DAYS AUG:29
ANDAMAN 6 DAYS AUG:12
BALI 07 DAYS AUG: 24
KAILASH MANASAROVAR 14 DAYS AUG:25
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NEPAL 08 DAYS SEP:22,OCT:06, 27

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 # AI poster draws criticism
John Abraham shared an AI-generated first look of his upcoming project, drawing criticism from social media users

SANDALWOOD SHOTS
Y MAHESWARA REDDY

Short film, big dreams

Many aspiring directors begin their careers with short films before moving on to feature films. Vikram Kumar, from Gudipalli in Kolar district's Mulbagal taluk, is set to join that list with Shravani, a 35-minute short film made in Kannada and Telugu.

Impressed by Vikram Kumar's concept, Ashok Modi backed the project. Harsha Kalyan and Rani M Angadi play the lead roles, while Deepa, Sri Vaishnav and Ranganath appear in key roles. The film was recently screened at Victory Cinema in Bengaluru.

"My goal is to become a full-fledged director. Shravani is my maiden movie as a director. It belongs to the love and sentiment genre and will be released on Non-Stop Entertainment OTT platform and TMP Picture YouTube Channel on June 26. I. He did not compromise on quality during filming," said Vikram Kumar.

"I came to Bengaluru hoping to become a hero. Now, I am very happy to realise my target through Shravani," said Harsha Kalyan.

The film has cinematography by Vijay Monterio and music by Rohit Poojari.

Gravity nears release

Debutant director Mahendar C Gundegala is busy preparing for the release of his maiden movie Gurutvakarshane (Gravity), which is expected to hit theatres next month. He has approached the Central Board of Film Certification for certification.

"Many people will think that this movie belongs to the science fiction genre because of its title, but it is not science fiction. The movie is set against the backdrop of Kollegal and Chamarajanagar. I am making arrangements to release the movie shortly," said Mahendar.

He said his mother wanted him to become a director. "I worked on the script for one-and-half years. I used to work during the day for a living and write the script at night. I gave opportunities to local talent from Mysuru and Kollegal," he said.

The movie features Jayant Dore, Sukruthi, Prabhakar, Divya Kumar Sattegala, Mandya Sidhu, Vijay Kiran, Master Shaurya and Dr Bhanuprakash AS.

Cinema needs stories

Comparisons between Bollywood and regional cinema remain unfair, says Divya

Veteran actress Divya Dutta has shared her views on the ongoing comparisons between Bollywood and regional cinema.

Speaking exclusively to IANS, she said it is unfair to judge an entire industry through a single lens. Talking about comedy films and storytelling, the actress stressed that a film's success depends on the strength of its narrative and presentation, regardless of the language or industry it comes from.

When asked whether regional cinema handles comedy better than Bollywood and if something is missing from Hindi comedy films, Divya Dutta said generalisations should be avoided. The 'Veer Zara' actress maintained that whether a film belongs to Bollywood, regional cinema, or international filmmaking, a strong story and effective presentation are what make it work.

She said, "It's not that we can generalize. Whether you talk about Hindi films, international or regional, whether the story is good or the presentation is good, I think everything goes well. And I think Carry On Jatta 4 is going to be one example of that."

Divya Dutta was recently spotted at the grand premiere of Punjabi comedy "Carry On Jatta 4," where she attended in support of her friends from the industry. She also interacted with the film's cast.

Talking about her recent work, Divya was last seen in "Chhaava," a historical drama based on the life of Sambhaji, the second ruler of the Maratha Empire. The film also stars Vicky Kaushal, Akshaye Khanna, and Rashmika Mandanna in key roles. Directed by Laxman Utekar, it is an adaptation of Shivaji Sawant's Marathi novel "Chhava."

On the digital front, she was recently seen in "Mayasabha: Rise of the Titans," which stars Aadhi Pinisetty and Chaitanya Rao in lead roles alongside Sai Kumar, Divya Dutta, and Nassar.

—ETimes

Farewell to dear pet

Disha Patani is heartbroken after the passing of her beloved pet dog Bella. The actress took to social media to share an emotional tribute that has moved fans across the country.

Taking to Instagram on Wednesday, June 24, Disha Patani shared a series of photos with Bella and accompanied them with a deeply personal note.

She wrote, "My bella, thank you for making this life so colourful, thank you for choosing our home and choosing me as your mom. You taught me what love is. I saw an entire universe within your eyes. I miss you and I love you the most in the world. The most beautiful baby in the world, rest in peace, my soulmate. I'm grateful to you bellu."

Bella was far more than a pet to Disha; she was a constant companion and a beloved presence in her everyday life. The actress regularly shared glimpses of their bond on Instagram, from playful moments at home to tender snapshots that reflected their close connection.

Even as she grieves, Disha Patani has a busy professional calendar ahead. She will next be seen in 'Welcome to the Jungle', the highly anticipated comedy starring Akshay Kumar and an ensemble cast. Directed by Ahmed Khan, the film is set to release in theatres on June 26.

—ETimes

Healing touch

Angelina Jolie is gearing up for the release of the poignant film 'Couture'. Centred on an American film director diagnosed with cancer, the story follows her struggles and journey of self-discovery. Angelina Jolie said she tapped into difficult moments from her life while preparing for the role. "I have lived long enough to have a lot of bad news in my life and lose a lot of people I love," she said in an interview with the Associated Press. The actress added that such experiences helped her connect with audiences through her work.

"It helps you to take your private life experiences and pain, and feel like you're sharing, connecting with others," she said.

Discussing her personal life, Jolie told Yahoo Entertainment: "To be candid, I haven't dated since I divorced a decade ago."

—ETimes

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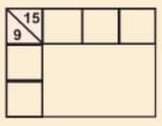
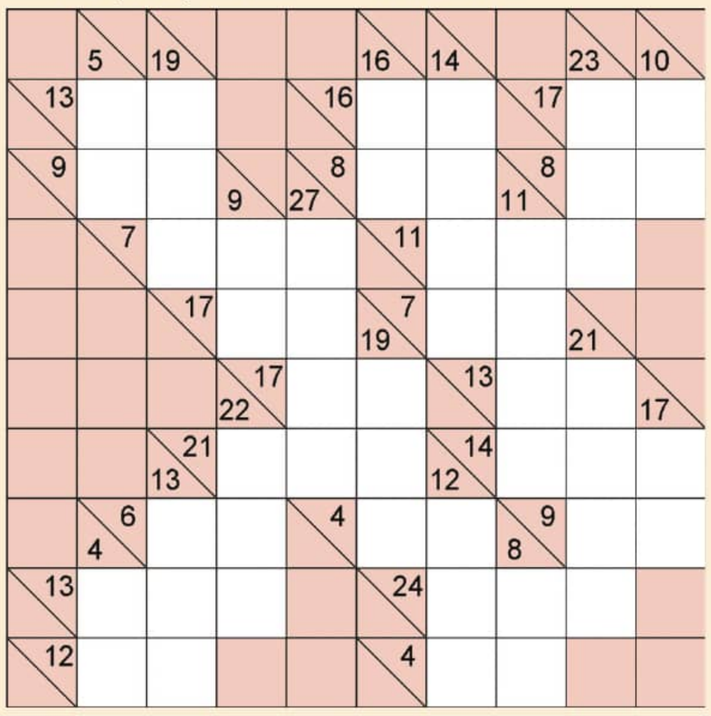
Kakuro

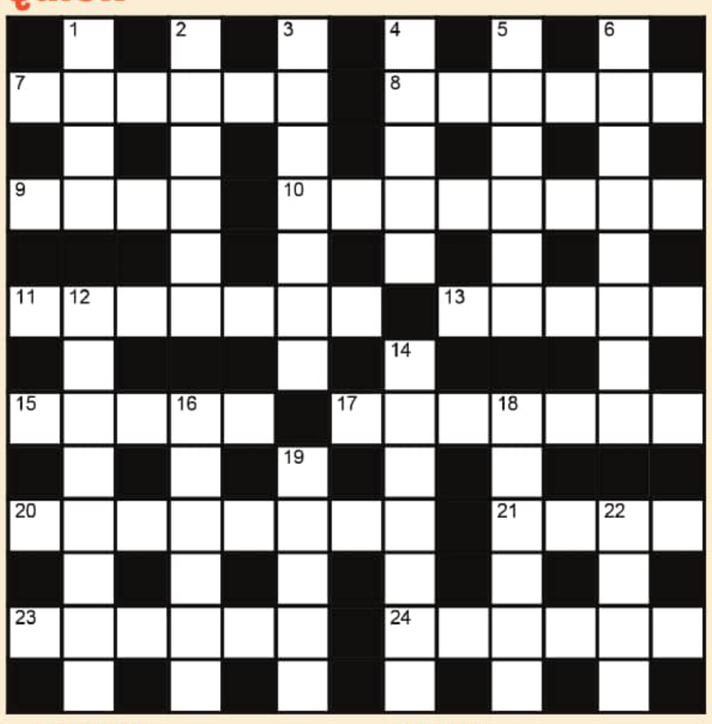
The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.



Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

7 Active ill-will (6)
8 Spanish friends (6)
9 Automobiles or motors? (4)
10 An abundance (8)
11 Always young (7)
13 Irish alphabet (5)
15 City in Nebraska (5)
17 Baby's recreation area (7)
20 Chapati made out of rice (4,4)
21 Close to (4)
23 Hankered for (6)
24 Converses (6)

DOWN

1 Festive occasion (4)
2 Prayer-book (6)
3 Loner (7)
4 Cowboy's noose (5)
5 Getting one's goat (6)
6 Dietary fibre (8)
12 Wet weather shoes (8)
14 Oval shape (7)
16 Altitude (6)
18 Over there (6)
19 Great many (5)
22 ___ for : seeks to obtain? (4)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: S EQUALS G

GZGCQ TWFRGC VU Y UFHW XWFUUFPVAS VA AYNHCG.

Linemaro

You are so hot, you must be coming down with flu all the time

Mind chow

Most men love money and security more, and creation and construction less, as they get older

Joke of the day

In America, only the successful writer is important, in France all writers are important, in England no writer is important, and in Australia you have to explain what a writer is

Loop

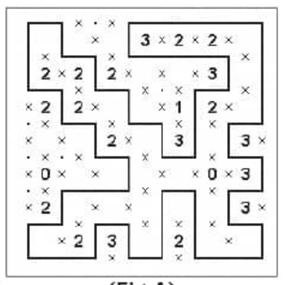
Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.

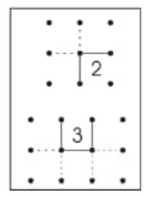
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

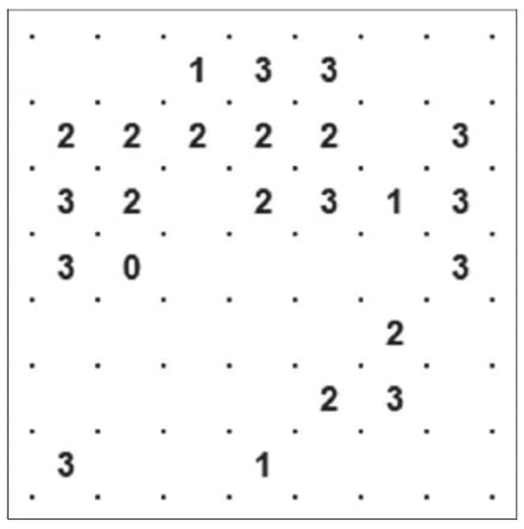
Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



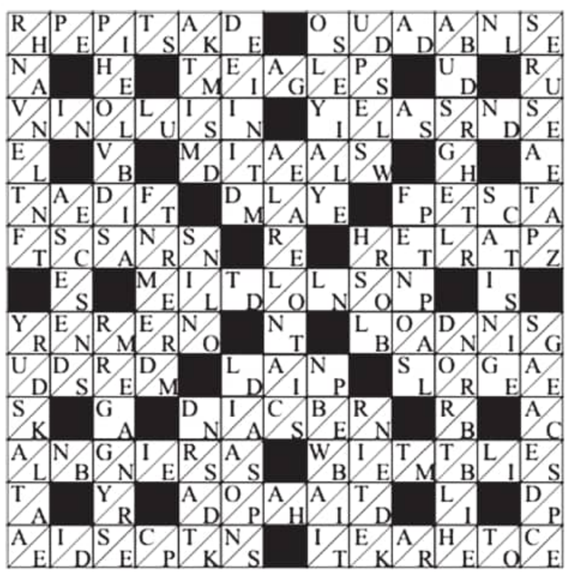
(Fig A)



(Fig B) Not Allowed



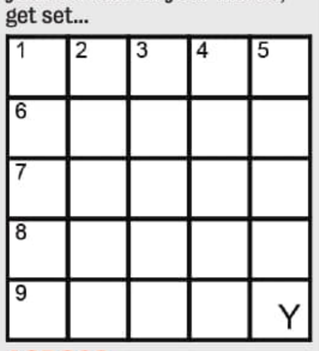
Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...



ACROSS

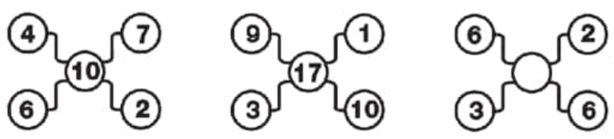
1 Reaps; 6 Ms Sew;
7 Saint; 8 Lanai;
9 Go gym

DOWN

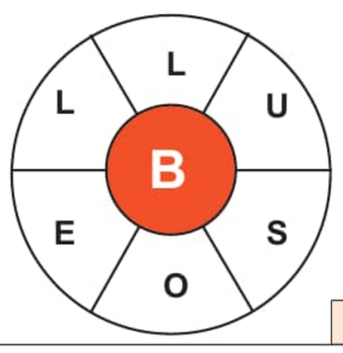
1 Lamps; 2 Namoi;
3 Grate; 4 Wings;
5 As yes

Mensapuzzle

Which number is missing?



Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

06 Average; **07** Good; **09** Outstanding

SudokuChallenge

	3		5	7				2
							5	8
		9		1	4	7		
			1					9
	7	1	4		9	2	6	
9					6			
		7	8	4		5		
4	9							
1				6	7		8	

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.

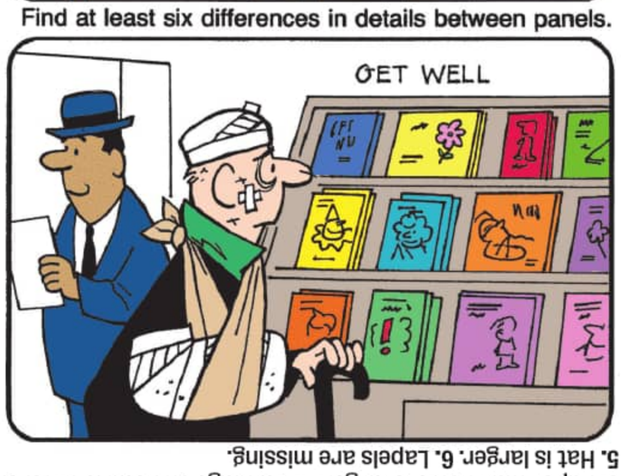
Easy = 8
2 3 4 5

Medium = 2
2 3 8 9

Hard = 26
2 3 5 9

Hocusfocus

Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Cane is moved. 2. Card is reversed. 3. Paper man holds is larger. 4. Bandage on head is different. 5. Hat is larger. 6. Lapels are missing.

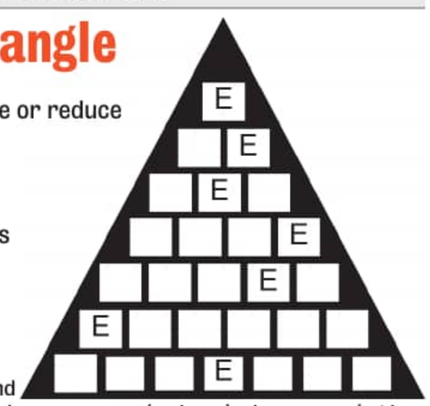
Riddler

This teaser is in honour of man's quest to quench his thirst with non-alcoholic beverages. Can you figure out what drinks are depicted below?

1. Joint between thigh and lower leg + having great elevation + yielding readily to pressure + swallowing liquid contents.
2. A practitioner of medicine + spicy hot pod like fruit that grows on plants.
3. Dried and powdered rhizome used as spice + another name for beer.

Alpha triangle

1 Second vowel
2 Prefix for remove or reduce
3 Scarlet
4 Went by horse
5 Weirder
6 Wore away
7 Gave instructions



Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE

COMICS

Popeye

I WILL PACK ME SUITCASE AND GO OUT INTO THE WORLD AND FIND MESELF!
I WILL PROVE THAT A LI'L KID CAN MAKE IT ON HIS OWN!
POPEYE!
WILL YA GIT ME SUITCASE FOR ME?
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popeye.com
9-24

Bizarrotrip

Diamond Lil

HAVE YOU HEARD? Y'ALL MART IS SELLING CHOCOLATE-COVERED POTATO CHIPS NOW
UGH... DOESN'T THAT SOUND DISGUSTING?!
EDNA, I'D EAT A DIRTY SWEAT SOCK IF IT WAS DIPPED IN CHOCOLATE
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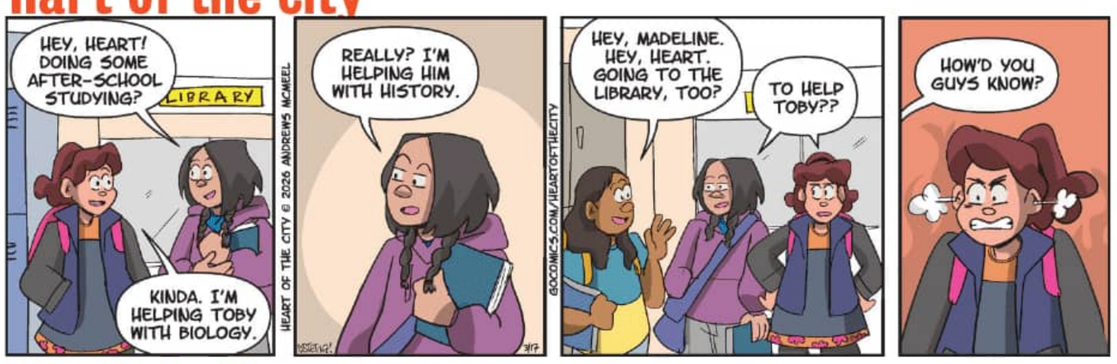
Bartlett

Hart of the city


HEY, HEART! DOING SOME AFTER-SCHOOL STUDYING?
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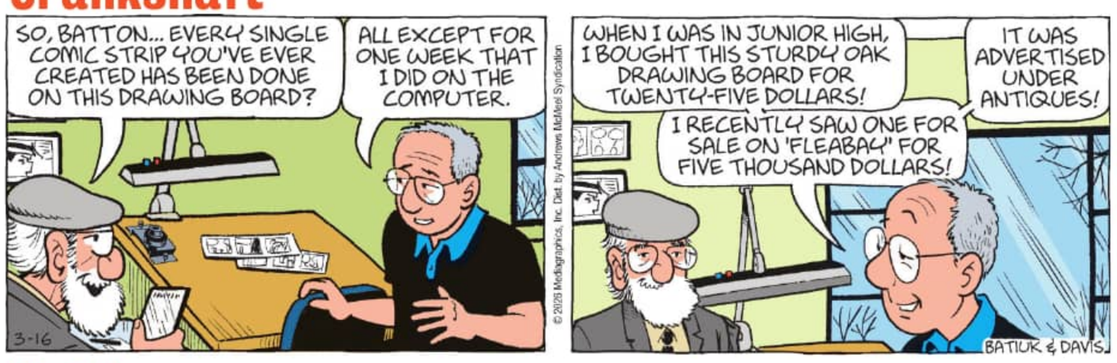
KINDA. I'M HELPING TOBY WITH BIOLOGY.
REALLY? I'M HELPING HIM WITH HISTORY.
HEART OF THE CITY © 2026 ANDREWS MCMEEL
HEY, MADELINE. HEY, HEART. GOING TO THE LIBRARY, TOO?
TO HELP TOBY??
GOCOMICS.COM/HEARTOFTHECITY
HOW'D YOU GUYS KNOW?

Crankshaft


SO, BATTON... EVERY SINGLE COMIC STRIP YOU'VE EVER CREATED HAS BEEN DONE ON THIS DRAWING BOARD?
ALL EXCEPT FOR ONE WEEK THAT I DID ON THE COMPUTER.
WHEN I WAS IN JUNIOR HIGH, I BOUGHT THIS STURDY OAK DRAWING BOARD FOR TWENTY-FIVE DOLLARS!
I RECENTLY SAW ONE FOR SALE ON 'FLEABAY' FOR FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS!
IT WAS ADVERTISED UNDER ANTIQUES!
3-16
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BATIUK & DAVIS

Mutts

WRITTEN IN THE STARS

DR SUNDEEP KOCHAR

If it's your birthday today

A powerful sense of determination helps you crush a difficult, long-standing professional goal today. Financial clarity arrives, allowing you to create a foolproof debt-repayment or savings plan. Love is grounded, steady, and incredibly reassuring during times of change. Treat your body like a temple; opt for fresh, organic ingredients to maximize your digestive health and stamina.

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20

Your organisational skills shine brilliantly today, creating harmony within both personal and professional situations naturally. Positive energy supports productivity beautifully. Focus your efforts confidently because luck, balance, motivation, and rewarding opportunities are all surrounding you.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20

Change arrives positively today, bringing exciting ideas, fresh perspectives, and renewed motivation into your life. Accepting new directions confidently helps you grow emotionally and professionally while opening unexpected opportunities supporting long-term happiness and personal fulfillment.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21

Colleagues may resist your ideas initially today, though frustration only complicates communication further unnecessarily. Explain your perspective calmly and thoroughly instead. Patience, confidence, and clear discussion help others understand and appreciate your vision eventually.

Cancer Jun 22 – July 23

Your emotions feel especially intense today, making logical thinking more important than emotional reactions currently. Pause before making decisions and trust practical reasoning instead. Keeping feelings balanced helps protect relationships, clarity, and overall emotional stability.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23

Creative ideas arrive rapidly today, though not every exciting possibility deserves immediate action currently. Consider available resources carefully before committing yourself. Staying realistic helps prevent overwhelm while ensuring your best ideas develop successfully and sustainably later.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23

Living spontaneously today opens exciting possibilities and fresh perspectives you never expected previously. Avoid overplanning every detail and embrace impulsive experiences confidently. Exploring unfamiliar opportunities may inspire rewarding hobbies, passions, or even meaningful career directions unexpectedly.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22

Too much isolation has kept you emotionally disconnected lately, making today perfect for reconnecting socially again. Spend time exploring somewhere new with friends. Meaningful interactions restore energy beautifully while helping your confidence and happiness grow naturally.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22

Showing vulnerability today strengthens relationships more than hiding your emotions ever could. People already recognize your resilience and inner strength completely. Sharing honest feelings with someone trusted brings comfort, healing, and deeper emotional understanding naturally now.

Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22

Important advice received today carries lasting wisdom and meaningful guidance for your future decisions. Listen carefully instead of dismissing helpful perspectives automatically. Accepting support openly helps solve problems while creating emotional clarity and valuable personal growth.

Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20

Someone quietly admiring you may finally reveal romantic feelings unexpectedly today. Paying closer attention helps you recognize this meaningful connection clearly. Encouraging honest communication gently could begin a beautiful, exciting, and emotionally fulfilling relationship soon.

Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19

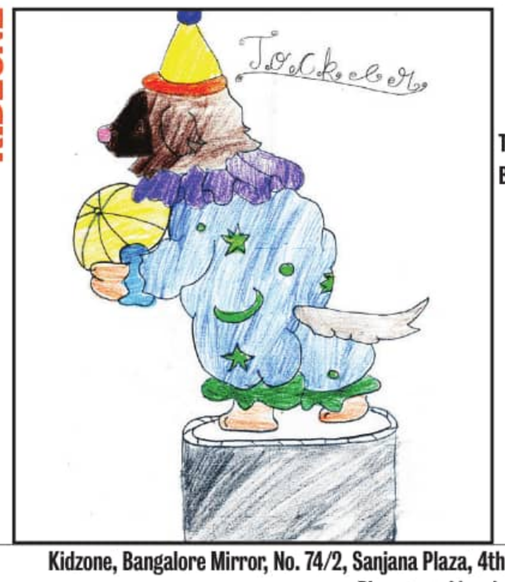
Speaking up confidently becomes necessary today if misunderstandings or unfair treatment arise around you. Remaining silent only prolongs frustration unnecessarily. Defending yourself respectfully helps others understand your perspective while restoring balance, fairness, and emotional confidence naturally.

Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20

Creating your own unique path brings greater fulfillment today than following everyone else blindly. Independent choices inspire admiration from loved ones naturally. Trusting yourself completely helps strengthen confidence while allowing your individuality and creativity shine beautifully.

www.sundeepkochar.com

KIDZONE



Tharun, Bengaluru

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SOLUTIONS

SOLVE IN 1M = (100 x 99 x 98i / 98i) – 9900 = 100 x 99 – 9900 = 9900–9900 = 0

BULL'S EYE SOLUBLE: bell, blouse, blue, bole, boll, bull, lobe, slob.

RIDDLER
1. Nehi Soft Drink. (Knee + high + soft + drink.),
2. Dr Pepper. (Doctor + pepper.),
3. Ginger Ale. (Ginger + ale.)

FAST FIVE

P	A	R	S	E
S	M	E	W	S
A	N	T	I	S
L	I	A	N	A
M	O	G	G	Y

STRIKE OUT

A	D	E	P	T	S		T	E	R	E	T	E		
T		R		A	P	H	I	D		L		D		
A	N	G	E	R	S		W	I	M	B	L	E		
K		A		D	I	C	E	R		B		C		
U	S	E	D		L	I	P		L	O	G	E		
Y	E	M	E	N		N		B	A	N	N	S		
	S		E	I	D	O	L	O	N		I			
T	S	A	R	S		R		H	E	R	T	Z		
N	A	I		F		M	A	Y		P	E	S	T	
E		B		D	I	A	L	S		G		A		
V	I	O	L	I	N		Y	E	A	R	N	S		
A		H		M	E	A	L	S		U		R		
H	E	P	T	A	D		S	U	A	B	L	E		

QUICK

	S		T		S		E		R		S			
I		T		C		H		E		D		K		S
	O				G				A				P	
K		R		O		R		I		R		O		T
	B				E				L				T	
O		U					P		L		A		Y	
	A		G		E		L		E		S		S	
C		A		R		S		H		I		N		G
	L		S				C		S		L		U	
M		A		L		I		C		E		A		M
	G		M		R				L		R		R	

QUOTE UNCODE
Every flower is a soul blossoming in nature.

MENSA PUZZLE
6. In each diagram, the central number equals the difference between the product of the two right hand numbers and the product of the two left hand numbers.

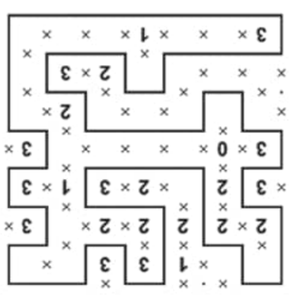
SUDOKU

1	2	5	9	6	7	3	8	4
4	9	8	3	5	1	6	2	7
3	6	7	8	4	2	5	9	1
9	8	3	7	2	6	1	4	5
5	7	1	4	8	9	2	6	3
2	4	6	1	3	5	8	7	9
8	5	9	2	1	4	7	3	6
7	1	2	6	9	3	4	5	8
6	3	4	5	7	8	9	1	2

ALPHA TRIANGLE
E, DE, Red, Rode, Odder, Eroded, Ordered.

GO FIGURE
Easy
2 – 3 + 5 + 4 = 8
Medium
3 + 9 – 8 – 2 = 2
Hard
2 x 9 + 5 + 3 = 26

LOOP



KAKURO

		1										3	9	
											9	1	3	
										4	6	1	5	8
									24	8	7	9		
								3	1	8	9			
							4	7	3	1	8			
						3	8	6	7	12	2	3	9	
					13	1	2	9	8	6	3	1	2	
				21	9	2	3	5	8	14				
			22	8	6	7	9	4	2	1	3	4	5	17
		17	9	8	5	1	4	2	1	3	2	1	8	
	17	8	9	4	3	2	1	7	3	1	6	2		
	19	7	2	1	4	11	2	1	3	7	1	8	9	2
16	9	7	17	9	8	27	7	1	11	3	6	2		
23	17	9	4	3	21	5	8	9	1	8				
10	12	3	1	2	4	1	3	2	4	1	3	9		

Volume No 19, Issue No 126 RNI NO:KARENG/2007/21142 Published for the Proprietors, Metropolitan Media Company Ltd by Lokesh K.V. at No. 74/2, Sanjana Plaza, 4th & 5th Floor, Elephant Rock Road, Jayanagar 3rd block, Bengaluru-560 011 and printed by him at Bennett Coleman & Co Ltd., The Times of India Press, No. 9/10/11-A, 4th Main, KIADB Bommasandra Industrial Area, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore–560 099 (Phones : Press : 080-22899999; Editorial : 080-40877666, Fax – 40877545, Registered Office: No. 74/2, Sanjana Plaza, 4th & 5th Floor, Elephant Rock Road, Jayanagar 3rd block, Bengaluru–560 011, Email : mybangaloremirror@timesofindia.com Editor : Ms. Seena Menon–responsible for selection of news under PRB Act. © Reproduction in whole or in part without the written permission of the Publisher is prohibited.

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